

FROM THE PEAK.

Sch. Gossip Brings a Big Fresh Cod Fare.

Reports Twenty-One Salt Bankers There Doing Well.

Capt. Douglass McLean of the sch. Gossip which arrived from the Peak today with a big, fresh cod fare, reports a fleet of 21 salt bankers now fishing on that ground. The fleet was finding fish scarce and up to Saturday, when he kept off for home, the school had not struck on. He spoke several of the vessels and they had not done anything to speak of.

Schs. Helen G. Wells and Argo which were the first to get on the ground, had done the best, but now there were so many there that they fairly covered the ground and the dories were very close together. What fish there were, appeared to be in spots. The Gossip was on a good spot, but parted her cable in a heavy breeze and lost the berth.

At first the weather was good, but the last 10 or 11 days the weather had been bad. Last Saturday, while on the way home, the Gossip encountered a heavy gale from north-north-west, which shifted to south-southeast and blew very hard so that the vessel was hove to under a two-reefed foresail for two hours.

The crafts on the Peak were berthed very close together, too much so for comfort.

The Queer Sunfish.

The sunfish or headfish is fairly common in the vicinity of Santa Catalina island. Its general appearance is oblong and deep, very thin or compressed, cut off (truncate) behind, so there appears to be no tail, a mere rim of movable flesh taking its place, which has a very limited use in the slow locomotion of this extraordinary fish. The skin is hard and coarse, rough, scaleless and covered with flat spines, the entire skin covered with a thick coating of slime, which appears to be a world in itself for numerous parasites which prey upon the fish.

This extraordinary fish is one of the few fishes of little or no use to man. "I am of the opinion," says a naturalist, "that the hard skin might be utilized. I once learned that the boys of a certain village in Maine were anxious to secure the muscular envelope of a specimen caught by me to use it as rubber. They cut the hard, elastic substance in round shapes and used them for the interior of home-made baseballs."

Fish at Rockland.

Fishing vessels are coming in large numbers. Monday afternoon the first schooner of the season arrived with 3000 pounds of halibut for the Rockland Fish Company, which were quickly disposed of by that company. The schooner also unloaded 25,000 salt fish for the company. Yesterday four trips of cod were landed at the company's wharf, aggregating 8000 pounds. The price of all kinds of fish is falling rapidly from the top net prices of a week ago. — Rockland Star.

PROPOSED LOBSTER LAWS.

Numerous Hearings Will Be Granted on Tuesday.

The following hearings will be granted by the committee on fisheries and game, at room 505, State House, at 10.30, Tuesday forenoon: On petition of Thomas L. Davis, providing for protection of lobsters with eggs attached; on petition of Fred H. Tarr for protection of female lobsters bearing eggs; on petition of Thomas L. Davis relative to the length of lobsters which may be caught and sold; on petition of C. E. Davis to prevent the extermination and to increase the natural production of lobsters.

Big Western Halibut Fares.

The Pacific Halibut steamers Kingfisher and New England of the New England Fish Company have arrived this week with big fares, having 250,000 pounds between them. The American Halibut Company has four ears of western fish due.

Good Stocks.

Sch. Flirt, Capt. Alfred Green, stocked \$948.59 on her recent haddock trip, the crew sharing \$52.

Sch. Rigel, Capt. Freeman Crowell, stocked \$2200 on her recent Peak trip.

Shack Fares Sold.

The fares of schs. Monarch, Yakima and Gov. Russell sold to Reed & Gamage and that of sch. Admiral Dewey to Slade Gorton & Co. at the market price.

New Cod Liver Oil Company.

The Rockland, Me., Fish Company on Wednesday began a new industry in the manufacture of cod liver oil.

TURTLE FLESH.

The Handsomest of the Animals Gives the Worst Meat.

No one really knows how large a turtle may grow, but certainly there does not appear to be much if any exaggeration attached to the statements of Pliny and Strabo, who, describing the chelonophagi of the Red sea, say that they utilized the shells of the turtles they had eaten as roofs to their huts and boats for their feeble voyages.

Strange to say, the handsomest turtle, the hawk's bill variety (*Chelone imbricata*), furnishes the worst flesh, being so strongly flavored with musk as to be almost uncatable. This peculiarity would seem to point to a diet of squid since these mollusca are exceedingly musky. But it may not be out of place to remark here that turtle flesh, even of the best sorts, is not nice. As Sam Weller's pie-man hoarsely whispered, "It's the seasoning as does it." A diet of turtle steaks or of hashed turtle or of turtle soup, an unadorned, would soon sicken any one but a savage. For sixpence or its equivalent in most of the West India island towns one can get a heaped plate of turtle steak with bread or jams or sweet potatoes ad lib. But I never knew even a hungry sailor who wanted more than one meal a week of it, for all its cheapness. The fact is that in the cult of turtle soup we are following (a long way off, it is true) the example set by the Chinese, who love gelatinous soups and pay fabulous prices for the nests of the sea swallows, the holothuria, or sea slug, and the sharks' fins because of their gelatinous qualities. — Frank T. Bullen in Leslie's.

March 26

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DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. James S. Steele, via Boston.
Sch. Evelyn L. Smith, via Boston.
Sch. Manomet, via Boston.
Sch. Orinoco, via Boston, 60,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Olivia Domingoes, shore.
Sch. Emily Cooney, shore.
Sch. Almeida, shore.
Sch. Oliver F. Kilham, shore.
Sch. Hattie F. Knowlton, shore.
Sch. Mary Edith, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt fish from vessels: Large handline Georges cod, \$5.00 per cwt.; medium do., \$4.00.

Large trawl Georges cod, \$5.00; medium do., \$4.00.

Large trawl Bank cod, \$4.50; medium do., \$4.00.

Fresh fish, splitting prices, large cod, Peak, \$2.37 1-2 others \$2.75; medium cod, Peak, \$2 others, \$2.15; haddock, (right through), \$1.50; pollock, 70; cusk, \$2; hake, \$1.10.

Fresh fish for market: Large cod, \$3.00; market cod, \$2.25; haddock, (right through) \$1.75.

Bank halibut, 8-3-4 cts. per lb. for white and 7 cts. per lb. for gray.

Georges halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 9 cts per lb. for gray.

Newfoundland frozen herring, \$3.50 per cwt.

Shore and refrigerator herring, \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt.

Boston.

Sch. Arcadia, 45,000 haddock, 43,000 cod.
Sch. Vidia M. Brigham, 14,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Flavilla, 5000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Annie and Jennie, 2000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Stranger, 7000 haddock, 700 cod.
Sch. Cavaire, 25,000 haddock, 22,000 cod.
Sch. Dauntless, 6000 cod.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, 24,000 haddock, 1500 cod.

Sch. Electric Flash, 12,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1500 hake.

Sch. Ida S. Brooks, 9000 haddock, 600 cod.
Sch. Nokomis, 17,000 cod.
Sch. Dixie, 2700 cod.
Sch. Viola, 9000 cod.

Haddock, \$1.60 to \$2.65; large cod, \$2 to \$3; market cod, \$2.25 to \$2.50; hake, \$1.75; pollock, \$2.50.

Provincetown Fish Notes.

Sch. I. J. Merritt landed 5000 lbs. fresh fish at Rich's wharf Tuesday.

Sch. Harvester stocked \$1012 on the trip of fresh fish landed at Boston last week.

Sloop Bessie bought in 3500 fish Tuesday.

Sloop Lear C. landed 2500 pounds fresh fish Tuesday.

Sch. Dido is being fitted for fresh fishing and will be commanded by Pansy Woods.

Sch. Emelia Enos landed 7000 lbs. fresh fish at John O'Neil's Sunday.

Sch. Esther Gray landed 7000 lbs. of fresh fish at Rich's wharf Friday last.

Sch. Mary P. Mosquita took bait and is here Monday.

Sch. Fannie W. is being put in Freeman readiness for a Grand Bank voyage.

Portland.

Sloop Nancy Hawks, Ella M. Doughty and Mabel E. Bryson were at Portland on Thursday.